

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Cache Valley Transit District
Wednesday June 24, 2015
5:45 pm
Bridgerland Applied Technology College
1301 North 600 West, Logan, Utah
Room 840

Present: Erik Ashcroft, Alma Leonhardt, Rodger Pond, Sallie Petersen, Jeannie Simmonds, Joy Reyes, Sue Sorenson, Glen Schmidt, Ron Hornsby, Holly Broome-Hyer, Heidi Harper, Craig Wright, Norman Larsen, Patricia Cronin, Tom Hogan, Roger Jones, Doug Thompson, Ron Natali

Excused: Shaun Bushman

Others: Todd Beutler, Nathan Coats, Curtis Roberts and Ivy Thomson

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Call to order: Board Chairman Doug Thompson
2. *Acceptance of Minutes:* Joy Reyes moved to approve the May minutes. The motion was seconded by Sue Sorenson.
3. *Approval of Agenda:* Questions will be at the end. Roger Jones moved the approval of agenda and Ron Natali seconded.
4. Next Board Meeting: July 15, 2015 at 5:45 pm.
5. **Action Items:**
 - A. Presentation to Cache Valley Transit District of Community Transportation Association of America's 2015 Urban System of the Year:
 - i. Community Transportation Association of America: Communications Director Scott Bogren congratulated CVTD via Skype. Since the 1980s the CTAA has grown to 4,000 members, representing rural and small-city transit operators across the nation. The Rural and Urban Systems of the Year are the most prestigious awards available. To select the winner, CTAA looked for commitment to service, responsiveness to community, innovations, and service solutions. It was his honor to pass on congratulations and say a job well done. Management will get Scott's contact information to *The Herald Journal's* representative.

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- ii. Senator Orrin Hatch: Sandra Kester from Senator Orrin Hatch's office read a letter offering the Senator's congratulations. "This is a prestigious award honoring only the most impressive forces in our country's transit systems...Maintaining and improving our transit system is essential to the success of Utah and our nation."
- iii. Congressman Rob Bishop: Todd projected a video recording of Congressman Bishop congratulating CVTD on the House floor. "The Cache Valley Transit District has a 19 year legacy of fare-free riding, a precedent for the nation." On behalf of Congressman Bishop, John Newbald presented CVTD with a plaque to commemorate the speech.
- iv. Doug expressed thanks to CVTD staff and employees, the Board for their direction, the local councils and mayors for their support, and the citizens of the Valley for supporting and riding the bus system. He expressed thanks to the people of Cache Valley who are paying the taxes, and explained that although CVTD receives help from the government, it also requires help from the citizens.
- v. Utah Department of Transportation: Tim Boschert, the Director for Public Transit, nominated CVTD for the award and offered his congratulations and why he nominated CVTD. He is responsible for all federal funds that come into the state, and distributes them. When he looks at agencies and how they use federal funds, it's important how they serve the community. Consistently CVTD comes up year after year at CTAA because the staff give community service, are involved beyond CVTD, and are involved in community projects which serve the community as a whole. Management will get Tim's contact information to *The Herald Journal's* representative.

B. Review of First Quarter Financials: Rodger Pond reported that the first quarter went as expected. Fuel costs were lower than projected as a result from the drop in gasoline prices. Craig Wright moved to approve the financials and Ron Hornsby seconded. The vote was unanimous.

6. **Board Business:**

A. Review of Nelson/Nygaard Fare Analysis: Linda represented the firm as the lead author of the fare analysis conducted three years ago. Her firm has expertise in fare policies. She has 35 yrs experience in public transit and serves on the Transportation Research Board. During the fare policy analysis, the firm asked, "What are the costs and benefits of transitioning from a zero-fare system to imposing a fare?" They looked at revenue potential, ridership impacts, initial capital investments and ongoing operating costs. They evaluated three different fare scenarios and considered issues such as federal transit requirements, potential

84 losses of federal funding, impacts on boarding, scheduling, and transfer policies.
85 The analysis concluded that at this time, CVTD should maintain zero-fare policy.
86 Because of potential loss of federal funding, the negative impact on ridership,
87 greater vehicle delays, and other real and perceived barriers, the expense to collect
88 fares would be greater than the revenue generated. Other systems have explored
89 fare options and are remaining zero fare. Linda addressed questions from the
90 Board and the public. Linda stated that if CVTD charged a fare, the current
91 ridership base would probably never be recouped, and Curtis affirmed that the
92 drop in ridership from charging a fare would likely result in \$380,000 loss of
93 annual federal funding. Roger proposed that the Oversight Committee study a
94 summary of the issues of zero-fare vs fare and that the Board vote on which
95 policy to pursue. Management will work with the Oversight Committee to
96 decide how best to discuss the issue with public input.
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98 **7. General Manager Report**

- 99 a. Board members will be sent a login and password to download Board packets
100 online to alleviate email delivery problems.
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102 **8. Workshop Items**

103 None.
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105 **9. Other Considerations:**

106 None.
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108 **10. Questions and Comments for Management and Board (Three minutes each):**

109 Addressed during Board Business.
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111 **11. Adjourn:**

112 Meeting adjourned by Doug Thompson.